

Wayland, Jan 1st 1860

Dear Mrs. Chapman,

I have perpetrated another "pair o' verses,"

But I had no tune in my mind, and I don't know whether any tune can be found, that can be made to fit them. If I had any musical skill, I think I could vary some old tune, so that it would answer, if there is none that fits exactly. My idea was to have a few voices sing the verses, and many voices sing the response.

If you don't want to use it for the Reception, you may give it to the Standard. I thought it would sound enlivening in the Music Hall. You, or anybody may change the words, as you like, if need be, to make them sing-a-ble.

The other piece of poetry, about John Brown, I had rather not have changed in any particular, without first consulting me. I liked veiled better than bathed, but the trouble was, light unveils, and I had to give up poetry to fact, as usual. I had the tune of Hebron in my mind, when I wrote it, and I thought it would be a convenient tune, because it is almost as univessally known as Old Hundred. But I am entirely willing that any better tune should be used, or any that better suits the singers. I make great calculation on hearing my "composition" sung, I assure you. I never had that happiness, and always longed for it.

Ms. A. 5. 1. 10. 87

Perhaps also he could advise about a rail-road tune, if you conclude to sing the lines I have with send.
Perhaps John Dwight could get Harriet & Graupner to play the piano for you, if you wish.

If anybody writes another Biography of John Brown, it had better be a Calvinist. I have but half a heart for the best of things that are Calvinistic. I detest Calvinism next to slavery.

As for my letters to Gov Wise, and Mrs. Mason, I don't care what is done with them, if they can only be made useful to the good cause. The same mail that brought me yours, brought a letter from Mr. G. C. Burnap of Poughkeepsie, proposing to print an edition for wide circulation. I shall tell him the A. S. Slavery Society propose to print, and advise him to obtain from them. My preference would be to have my letters in a Tract by themselves, but I will give up my preference if the friends do not agree with me.

Since my letter to Mrs. Mason was published, I have a fresh supply of such epistles as you wot of. What very appropriate arguments!

I have lived so entirely out of the world, for years, that I can not help you about the Circulars. I literally know nobody. I can only think of Rev Edmund Sears, Wayland; Rev. J. B. Wight, ditto; James S. Draper, ditto. Deacon Draper, ditto. Miss Eliza Scudder, Boylston Place. Boston. The last you had better send.

If Mary Stearns has a list, she had better be reminded of Miss Lucy Osgood, and Mrs. ^{Chedford} Page; lest she think I have sent to them.

Please inform Mrs. Follen that I will try to come there the day before "The Fair"; weather and health permitting. Mr. Furness is in Chedford to-day. I can not answer your question about him.

As for John Brown's Biography, I should not like to attempt it, now that all the materials have been used up!